

NCLM Local Cable and Video Programming Franchising Goals

NC municipalities welcome fair competition in the provision of video programming in their communities from all competitive providers as long as all providers operate under the same set of currently established franchising rules, procedures and standards. NC municipalities do not see that requirement as *unreasonable*.

It is the policy of the NC League of Municipalities to support the authority of our members to grant franchises to all companies providing video programming (cable service) to their municipalities and have all providers of video programming services to cities and towns pay the same level of franchise fees. Specific goals include:

1. Ensure and maintain authority for municipalities to grant franchises to all companies to provide cable-type video programming services in a municipality (local governments use franchises to manage streets and sidewalks, provide for public safety, enhance competition, and to collect compensation for private use of public land).
2. Ensure and maintain local regulation of rates, charges, customer service rules, and other terms or conditions for entry regarding the provision of video programming services in a municipality within the restrictions of current law.
3. Ensure and maintain local franchise fees for video programming services from all companies providing the service.
4. Preserve adequate cable and video programming franchise fees by not excluding advertising and other non-subscriber revenues from franchise fees.
5. Ensure and maintain requirements for all franchised companies to provide video programming services throughout a municipality (build out to all citizens regardless of race, age, income or location within a reasonable timeframe).
6. Ensure and maintain the appropriate number of public, educational, and local government (PEG) channels, institutional networks, and the use by municipalities of cable systems for local emergency alerts.
7. Ensure and maintain funding or in-kind support (facilities/equipment) from all video programming companies for PEG channels shown on the video programming system.
8. Ensure and maintain municipal control of video programming companies' use of rights of way within the restrictions of current law.
9. Ensure and maintain all other local regulation of cable or video programming companies within the restrictions of current law.

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